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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,623	06/18/2001	Pavitra Subramaniam	5306P016	4377

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EXAMINER

ALAUBAIDI, HAYTHIM J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 09/03/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicant(s)

09/883,623

Applicant(s)

SUBRAMANIAM ET AL.

Examiner

Haythim J. Alaubaidi

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 16 September 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is a first non-final action in regard to the current application NO. 09/883,623.
2. Claims 1-30 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 10, 16, 21 and 27 are independent Claims.
3. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b).
4. Claims 9 and 26, are objected to because of minor informalities.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 9 and 26, are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Claim No. 9, appears to be missing the text of "search results can be listed on a user interface". Appropriate correction is required.
 - Claim No. 26, is confusing the Examiner in regard to the text of "sends sending". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-30, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Michael Edward Moran (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,662 and Moran hereinafter).

Regarding Claims 1, 10, 16 and 27, Moran discloses:

receiving search criteria entered by a user (Col 2, Lines 19-20; see also Col 5, Lines 8-14; see also Col 6, Lines 11-13, i.e. the system awaits 1302 the choosing of a category by the user)

searching a database for data record matching the search criteria (Col 5, Lines 41-45; see also Col 5, Lines 50-51; see also Col 6, Lines 13-14, i.e. a search is performed for the category)

generating search results (Col 6, Line 14-15, i.e. and the category is displayed 1304 in the book format; see also Col 3, Lines 56-59)

catching the search results (Col 2, Lines 13-16; see also Col 7, Lines 16-19).

Regarding Claims 2, 17 and 22, Moran discloses receiving search category (Col 6, Lines 57-61).

Regarding Claims 3, 18 and 23, Moran discloses receiving search keyword (Col 2, Lines 19-20), i.e.

The present invention provides a user interface that does much of the work in searching and organizing of search data. It defines search terms and sources ahead of time for subjects that have wide usage, or are suggested by the user.

Regarding Claim 4, Moran discloses passing the received search criteria to a virtual business component (Col 3, Lines 11-27; see also Col 6, Lines 24-30)¹.

Regarding Claim 5, Moran discloses passing the received search criteria from the virtual business component to a search execution business service ², (Col 2, Lines 54-55), i.e.

FIG. 12 is a block diagram of a search engine in accordance with the present invention.

Regarding Claims 6 and 13, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejected claim No. 1, above. In addition Moran discloses using a search execution business service to search the database (Col 3, Lines 11-27).

Regarding claims 7 and 14, the limitations of these claims are similar in scope to the rejected claim 1, above. They are therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding Claims 8, 19, 25 and 29 Moran discloses caching the search result until termination of a user session (Col 6, Lines 17-23), i.e.

The user can select a new category 1307 if the first selection was inappropriate, or has exhausted resources of a selected category 1309. Closing 1310 of the book to end 1311 the display or to select another book 1312 is a choice the user can make at any time during the process. Once a book has been closed, another book can be selected.

¹ The Examiner would like to bring the Applicant's attention to the reason why the citation of Col 3, Lines 11-27 were cited and it's connection to the meaning of the "Virtual Business Component", the Examiner is basing this reason to what is in the Specification of the instant application (please see Page 41, Lines 6-14, i.e. external data).

² Please note that the Examiner is interpreting the "search execution business service" as a Search Engine.

Regarding claims 9, 15, 20, 26 and 30, the limitations of this claim is similar in scope to the rejected claim 1, above. They are therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 11, the limitations of this claim are similar in scope to the rejected claims 2 and 4, above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 12, the limitations of this claim are similar in scope to the rejected claims 3 and 5, above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 21, the limitations of this claim are similar in scope to the rejected claims 1 and 4, above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 24, the limitations of this claim are similar in scope to the rejected claims 1 and 7, above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 28, the limitations of this claim are similar in scope to the rejected claims 2 and 3, above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Other Prior Art Made of Record

8. a. Tso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,602) discloses a presentation of search results using dynamic categorization;

b. Judd et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,360,215) discloses a method and apparatus for retrieving documents based on information other than document content;

c. Drucker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,796) discloses a method and apparatus for improving access to literature;

d. Rubinstein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,913,215) discloses a browse by prompted keyword phrases with an improved method for obtaining an initial document set; and

e. Husick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,914) discloses a method for categorizing documents into subjects using relevance normalization for documents retrieved from an information retrieval system in response to a query.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Points of Contact

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haythim J. Alaubaidi whose telephone number is (703) 305-1950. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-1436.

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Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or telefax at
our fax number (703) 872-9306.

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6th
Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

Haythim J. Alaubaidi

Haythim J. Alaubaidi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
August 21, 2003


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